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Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-fourth session
Vienna, 13-24 April 2015

Annotated provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views.
4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.
5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
6. Matters relating to:
   (a) The definition and delimitation of outer space;
   (b) The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.
7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
8. Capacity-building in space law.
9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.
10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space.

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12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

13. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fifth session.

Annotations*

4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law (A/AC.105/C.2/106).

5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space

In paragraph 4 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, should reconvene the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space.

As agreed by the Working Group at the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee, the replies received by the Secretariat to the questions in the questionnaire prepared by the Chair of the Working Group will be made available in a conference room paper. An updated overview of the responses to the questionnaire, including a synthesis of views presented in writing and raised in the discussions during that session, will also be made available in a conference room paper (A/AC.105/1067, Annex I, paras. 10 and 16).

The Subcommittee, at its fifty-third session, agreed that at its fifty-fourth session it would review the need to extend the mandate of the Working Group beyond that session (A/AC.105/1067, para. 200).

6. Matters relating to:

(a) The definition and delimitation of outer space

(b) The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union

In paragraph 4 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, should reconvene its Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space.

At its thirty-ninth session, in 2000, the Subcommittee agreed that the Working Group would consider only matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space (A/AC.105/738, para. 108).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing replies received from Member States to questions on the definition and delimitation of

* The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

outer space (A/AC.105/889/Add.15) and a note by the Secretariat containing replies from Member States and permanent observers of the Committee to questions on suborbital flights for scientific missions and/or for human transportation (A/AC.105/1039/Add.4).

7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

The Subcommittee will have before it an information handout developed by the Secretariat, in consultation with the International Telecommunication Union, on issues related to registration, authorization, debris mitigation and frequency management with respect to small and very small satellites. The handout has been developed in accordance with the request the Legal Subcommittee made at its fifty-third session (A/AC.105/1067, para. 98).

8. Capacity-building in space law

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on the United Nations/China/Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization Workshop on Space Law, held in Beijing from 17 to 20 November 2014 (A/AC.105/1089).

9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed that the item on review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space should be considered as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth session (A/69/20, para. 283).

10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed that the item on general exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, should be considered as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth session (A/69/20, para. 283).

11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed to include the item on general exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth session (A/69/20, para. 283).

12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

In paragraph 4 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, should reconvene its Working Group on International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space. The Working Group will continue its work, for 2015, in accordance with the workplan established under this item (A/AC.105/1003, para. 179).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing replies received from member States and permanent observers of the Committee on review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space (A/AC.105/C.2/107).

13. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fifth session

At its fifty-fourth session, the Legal Subcommittee will submit its proposal to the Committee for the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Subcommittee.

Symposium

The Subcommittee, at its fifty-third session, agreed that the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law should again be invited to organize a symposium, to be held during its fifty-fourth session (A/AC.105/1067, para. 201). A symposium on the theme "Space traffic management" will be held on the afternoon of 13 April 2015.

Organizational matters

At its fifty-fourth session, the Committee endorsed the recommendations made by the Legal Subcommittee at its fiftieth session (A/AC.105/990, paras. 194 and 196-198) and by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session (A/AC.105/987, paras. 216-220) concerning the improvement and optimization of the methods of work of those subsidiary bodies (A/66/20, para. 298).

Evaluation of the use of digital recordings

At its fifty-third session, in 2010, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present to the Legal Subcommittee and the Committee, in 2011, a proposal to discontinue the use of unedited transcripts (A/AC.105/C.2/L.282, para. 3). In accordance with that request, the Secretariat recommended that the use of unedited transcripts should be discontinued starting from the fifty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee, in 2012, and that, in 2015, the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth session and the Committee at its fifty-eighth session should evaluate the use of digital recordings (A/AC.105/C.2/L.282, paras. 6 (a)-(d)).

Annex

Organization of work

1. The work of the Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be reconvened under items 5, 6 (a) and 12 the maximum amount of time available.

2. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 3, entitled "General exchange of views", may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting. As a general rule, statements should not exceed 10 minutes, as agreed by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session, in 2011 (A/66/20, para. 298 (b)).

3. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. The indicative schedule of work is a general guide to the dates and times when items will be addressed during the session. The consideration of any item may be moved forward, extended or delayed, depending on the requirements of the Subcommittee and any organizational constraints that may arise in the course of the session.

Indicative schedule of work*

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Week of 13-17 April 2015		
Monday, 13 April	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Statement by the Chair Item 3. General exchange of views	Symposium organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law on the theme "Space traffic management"
Tuesday, 14 April	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space[a] Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space[a] Technical presentations

* At its thirty-eighth session, in 1995, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (A/50/20, para. 169 (b)).

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Wednesday, 15 April	Item 3. General exchange of views	Item 3. General exchange of views
	Item 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law	Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space[a]
	Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space[a]	Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space[b]
	Technical presentations	Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit
		Technical presentations
Thursday, 16 April	Item 3. General exchange of views	Item 3. General exchange of views
	Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space[b]	Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space[b]
	Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit	Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit
	Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space	Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space
	Technical presentations	Technical presentations
Friday, 17 April	Item 3. General exchange of views	Item 3. General exchange of views
	Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space[b]	Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space[c]
	Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit	Item 13. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee
	Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space	Technical presentations
	Technical presentations	
Week of 20-24 April 2015		
Monday, 20 April	Item 3. General exchange of views	Item 10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
	Item 11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space	Item 11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space
	Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space[c]	Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space[c]
	Technical presentations	Technical presentations

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Tuesday, 21 April	Item 10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Item 11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space[c] Technical presentations	Item 8. Capacity-building in space law Item 9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Item 10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Technical presentations
Wednesday, 22 April	Item 8. Capacity-building in space law Item 9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Item 13. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee Technical presentations	Item 8. Capacity-building in space law Item 9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Item 13. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee Technical presentations
Thursday, 23 April	Item 13. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 5[a] Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 6 (a)[b] Technical presentations	Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 12[c] Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee Technical presentations
Friday, 24 April	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee

[a] The Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during the session to consider item 5. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 5 on Thursday, 23 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.

[b] The Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during the session to consider item 6 (a). The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 (a) on Thursday, 23 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.

[c] The Working Group on International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space, to be convened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during the session to consider item 12. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 12 on Thursday, 23 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.